

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

This Amendment is in response to the Office Action mailed January 29, 2007. Claims 20-32 were pending in the present application. This Amendment amends claim 25, without adding or canceling any claims, leaving pending in the application claims 20-32. Reconsideration of the rejected claims is respectfully requested.

I. Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 25-27 and 29-31 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being rendered obvious by *Todd* (US 5,890,163) in view of *Rice* (US 6,411,947). Applicants respectfully submit that these references do not teach or suggest each element of these claims.

For example, Applicants' claim 25 recites an email server for performing unconscious archiving of electronic documents in a network environment, wherein electronic documents are transferred over a network coupling at least one client computer and at least one document management workstation having at least one database disposed to receive electronic copies of said documents for archiving, said server operatively disposed to:

collect electronic image data of an email document transmitted over the network, the email document transmitted over the network, wherein the **email document was transmitted in response to a single user input command configured to transmit the email document to a destination, the electronic image data being a copy of the email document transmitted over the network;**

cause said image data to be stored in the at least one database to perform the **unconscious capture archiving**, wherein the aforementioned steps are carried out without further input from the user notwithstanding the single user input command for transmitting the email document to a destination, wherein the storing of said image data in the at least one database is separate from the transmission of the email document to the destination and **transparent to the user**

(*emphasis added*). Applicants respectfully submit that such limitations are neither taught nor suggested disclosed by *Todd* and/or *Rice*.

Todd teaches an electronic mail archiver wherein a user can identify an electronic mail message to be archived (col. 2, lines 7-16), either by selecting specific messages or selecting an option to archive all messages (col. 2, lines 17-41). The decision to archive a message is a conscious decision, as the user must select an option to archive a message before any message is

archived. This is not an unconscious decision, and is not transparent to the user. Further, this archiving is not done via a single user input command for transmitting an email document to a destination, where the single user input is a "send" or similar command as known in the art for transmitting email messages. A selection to archive all messages, for example, must be done separately from input commands to individually transmit individual messages over time. Further still, the Office Action recognizes on page 3 that *Todd* does not teach unconscious capture archiving performed transparent to the user. As such, *Todd* cannot render obvious Applicants' claim 25.

Rice does not make up for these deficiencies in *Todd* with respect to Applicants' claim 25. *Rice* teaches the interpretation of incoming messages "by utilizing a knowledge base to execute reasoning tasks which automatically classify incoming electronic messages and automatically obtain responses to the messages" (col. 3, lines 3-23). The incoming messages are received to an inbox (col. 4, lines 6-10), and an automatic message reader periodically checks the inbox for new messages (col. 5, lines 13-14). When the automatic reader retrieves a message from the inbox, the message is interpreted using "a knowledge base capable of performing rule based parsing and case based retrieval" (col. 5, lines 37-41). If the automatic message reader classifies the message as of the "automatic" type, one or more predetermined responses are retrieved from a repository such as an archive for automatic delivery to the source (col. 9, lines 24-35). If the automatic message reader is not capable of automatically responding to the message, the message must be transferred to a human operator for review (col. 9, lines 43-46). After the message is routed to the appropriate inbox, a human operator reviews and processes the messages (col. 10, lines 30-42). When the human operator deems that a predetermined response is appropriate for release to the customer, the response is routed to the outbox (col. 10, lines 39-47). All outgoing messages then can be archived in an archive database for subsequent review and use if so desired (col. 10, lines 48-50).

As can be seen, *Rice* only teaches archiving of outgoing messages sent in response to a message from a user, and does not teach or suggest automatically storing a copy of an incoming message transmitted by a user to a destination such as is recited in Applicants' claim 25 ("the email document was transmitted in response to a single user input command configured to

transmit the email document to a destination"). Further, *Rice* thus also cannot teach or suggest such archiving of a message transmitted from a user that is unconscious and transparent to the user as recited in Applicants' claim 25. For automatic processes, *Rice* only retrieves pre-determined responses from the archive. *Rice* teaches storing copies of response messages in an archive, where new response messages are only generated after processing by a human operator. As *Rice* does not teach or suggest unconscious and automatic archiving of messages from a user, that is transparent to the user, *Rice* cannot render Applicants' claim 25, or the claims that depend therefrom, either alone or in combination with *Todd*. Claim 29 recites limitations which similarly are not taught or suggested by these references, such that these references also cannot render obvious Applicants' claim 29 or dependent claims 30 and 31. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the rejection with respect to claims 25-27 and 29-31 be withdrawn.

Claims 20-24, 28, and 32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious over *Todd* and *Rice* in view of *Bellemare* (US 5,701,183). Applicants respectfully submit that these references do not teach or suggest each element of these claims.

As discussed above, neither *Todd* nor *Rice*, alone or in combination, teaches archiving of each and every email document in a plurality of email documents, wherein the archiving is unconscious and transparent to the user, as well as being done with a single user input command to transmit a message to a destination, as recited in Applicants' claims 20, 22, 25, and 29. As such, *Todd* and *Rice* cannot render obvious claims 20, 22, 25, and 29, or the claims that depend therefrom, individually or in combination.

Bellemare does not make up for the deficiencies in *Todd* and *Rice* with respect to claims 20, 22, 25, and 29. *Bellemare* teaches a system for selective archiving of facsimile messages (col. 1, line 41-col. 2, line 39; Abstract), and is cited as teaching the same (OA p. 4). *Bellemare* does not, however, teach or suggest a server operatively disposed to collect electronic image data of each and every email document in a plurality of email documents transmitted over the network, wherein the email document was transmitted in response to a single user input command configured to transmit the email document to a destination, or disposed to cause said image data to be stored in the at least one database to perform the unconscious capture archiving,

without further input from the user notwithstanding the single user input command for transmitting the email document to a destination, and wherein the storing of said image data in the database is transparent to the user. As such, the teachings of *Bellemare* cannot make up for the deficiencies in *Todd* and/or *Rice* with respect to claims 20, 22, 25, and 29, and the claims that depend therefrom. As *Todd*, *Rice*, and *Bellemare* do not teach or suggest the limitations of these claims, either alone or in combination, Applicants respectfully submit that *Todd*, *Rice*, and *Bellemare* cannot render obvious these claims, and respectfully request that the rejection with respect to claims 20-24, 28, and 32 be withdrawn.

II. Amendment to the Claims

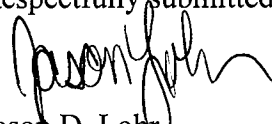
Unless otherwise specified, amendments to the claims are made for purposes of clarity, and are not intended to alter the scope of the claims or limit any equivalents thereof. The amendments are supported by the specification and do not add new matter.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance and an action to that end is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 415-576-0200.

Respectfully submitted,



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